

**UTAH STATE FIRE PREVENTION BOARD
VIRTUAL MEETING
July 13, 2021 Meeting Minutes
PENDING APPROVAL**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

David Olsen, Board Chair
Michael Phillips, Vice Chair
Joseph Decker
Craig Humphreys

Chris Kimball
Derek Maxfield
Brett Ostler
Patrick Tomasino

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Chris Dawson
Jared Larson
Frank Park

STAFF PRESENT

Coy Porter, State Fire Marshal
Ted Black, Chief Deputy Fire Marshal
Renee Spooner, Assistant Attorney General
Jana DeMille, Board Secretary

OTHERS

Members of the public and the fire service attended this meeting. The attendance log is kept with the full record of the meeting.

Item #1, Board meeting called to order by Board Chair David Olsen. The meeting started at 8:30 A.M., over Google Meet. Board Member Roll Call – quorum present.

Item #2, Approval of the May 11, 2021 board meeting minutes. Motion made by Craig Humphreys to approve the minutes; seconded by Joe Decker. Motion passed.

Item #3, Report to the Board by Chief Scott Spencer, Chair, Utah Fire Service Certification Council. Chief Spencer was unable to attend and report was given by Lori Howes.

- The Council last met on May 19.
- Pro Board has new methodologies and the Council has been working on that. Levels have been turned in for approval.
- IFSAC completed their site visit last week.
- Next meeting is Wednesday, July 21 at UFRA. This is an in-person meeting and all are invited.
- Jolene Chamberlain added that after the Council meeting, there is a farewell for Lori Howes.

Item #4, Report to the Board by Coy Porter, State Fire Marshal, and Brad Wardle, Director Utah Fire and Rescue Academy, concerning the status of UFRA Memorandum of Understanding.

- Mr. Porter and Mr. Wardle stated they have been told the document is signed.

Item #5, Report to the Board by Coy Porter, Utah State Fire Marshal, explaining the status of DOPL's concerns with requiring a licensed engineer to approve fire suppression and alarm systems.

- The workgroup met and a decision was made to propose clarifying language be added to the code to ensure that all parties understand who can do what and what would be acceptable. Information was requested and input received from 19 other states as to how they work with this issue. Of those states, all except New Jersey allow NICET III and above to do this work.
- Language modifications have been written and reviewed by Renee Spooner, DPS Assistant Attorney General, and we are in the process of moving this forward for legislative consideration.
- The Uniform Building Code Commission has a meeting tomorrow (July 14) and they will address the portion relating specifically to the Building Code, Section 107.2.1.
- We hope this issue will be resolved and that the clarifying language will allow all parties to continue their work as has been the case for the better part of the past 60 years.

Item #6, Report to the Board by Coy Porter, Utah State Fire Marshal, on the Fourth of July, fireworks, and future legislation.

- Fortunately, it was a rather mild 4th this year and not many fire departments have reported fires of any consequence.
- Issues remain related to the "banning" of firework discharges in a number of cities. Our office has heard from wholesale distributors that there is a potential of future legal action against those cities.
- Our office is planning to request a bill to allow the use of spark producing "pyrotechnic devices" that use zirconium and titanium flakes to create sparks. The company Sparktacular is in the process of having their machines listed by UL. Since such devices are not specifically identified in our statutes, we want to add such to our laws.
- Because of the extreme drought conditions, some local legislators want to change the fireworks law to give municipalities additional authority to further restrict or outright ban certain fireworks discharges. We will continue to work with legislators as they look to either consolidate the various fireworks statutes into a comprehensive piece of legislation or modify existing laws to take drought and other environmental conditions into account when allowing fireworks discharges to occur.

Item #7, Report to the Board by Brett Ostler, Forestry, Fire and State Lands, on the status of the 2021 fire season.

- 560 Wildland fires
 - 419 human caused (74%)
 - 128 natural causes
 - 13 undetermined
 - 60,000 acres burned
- Flatt Fire is the largest in the State of Utah

- Fireworks fires: Last year there were 67 fires caused by fireworks in July. So far this year there have been 2. Very hopeful this trend will continue.

Item #8, Approval by the Board to conduct the September Fire Prevention Board meeting virtually.

- Motion made by Brett Ostler to conduct September's meeting as a **hybrid** of virtual and in-person. Motion seconded by Craig Humphreys. Motion passed.
- The anchor location of the meeting will be the State Fire Marshal's Office. Those wishing to attend the meeting in person will meet in the conference room. The conference room can accommodate 20-25 people without social distancing.

Item #9, Old Business: None

Item #10, New Business: None

Item #11, Next Board Meeting is September 14, 2021 beginning at 8:30 AM at the Utah State Fire Marshal's Office, 410 West 9800 South, Sandy, UT 84070. This will be a hybrid virtual/in-person meeting.

- Motion made by Brett Ostler to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Craig Humphreys. Meeting adjourned.